

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as currently amended and in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-10 are currently active in this case. Claims 1, 6, and 7 have been amended, claim 2 has been cancelled, and claims 8-10 have been added by the current amendment. No new matter has been added. See page 14 lines 17-32 re the amendments to the independent claims. See page 14, line 22-page 16, line 29; page 16, line 22-page 19, line 32; and page 19, line 33-page 21, line 9 of the Specification re new claims 8-10, respectfully.

In the outstanding office action, claims 1-4, 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPub 200301442681 to Chen in view of USP 6,892,069 to Flynn; and claim 5 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Flynn and USPub 20010053133 to Horikawa.

Briefly recapitulating, the present invention (claim 1 as amended) is directed to communication equipment including a reception/transmission unit configured to notify a target equipment of a plurality of addresses provided for the communication equipment, acquire a plurality of target equipment addresses provided for the target equipment, from the target equipment, and perform packet reception/transmission using a plurality of provided addresses and a plurality of acquired target equipment addresses; and a controller configured to select the target equipment address to be used by the reception/transmission unit, and control the reception/transmission unit to perform the packet reception/transmission using a selected target equipment address. The controller combines the plurality of addresses with the plurality of target equipment addresses, selects a combination to be used by the reception/transmission unit from the combinations by selecting a preferred route of communication, and controls the reception/transmission unit to perform the packet reception/transmission by using the selected combination.

In short, claim 1 of the present application includes the following features:

- (A) notifying a target equipment of a plurality of addresses provided for the communication equipment;
- (B) acquiring a plurality of target equipment addresses provided for the target equipment;
- (C) performing packet reception/transmission using a plurality of addresses for the communication equipment and a plurality of addresses provided for the target equipment; and
- (D) selecting the target equipment address and the communication equipment address to be used by the reception/transmission unit and controlling the reception/transmission unit to perform the packet reception/transmission using the selected combination.

In contrast thereto, Chen et al. merely disclose a technique for notifying target equipment of new IP addresses when a new IP address is assigned to the mobile host. In Chen, “target equipment” reflects another host, a DNS server Home Agent (“HA”), or a SIP server, for example. See paragraph [0046] of Chen.

Further, Chen et al. disclose that in a case where a mobile host possesses multiple addresses, all of the multiple addresses are stored in a table. Apparatuses containing these “tables” include a mobile host, a foreign agent, a HA, a DHCP server, and a DRCP server, for example. See paragraph [0051] of Chen.

The official action concedes that Chen fails to teach a controller for selecting a combination of addresses. However, the official action further asserts that Flynn remedies the deficiency of Chen. Applicants respectfully traverse. Flynn discloses a technique whereby, when a mobile host is moved between its home network to one of a plurality of

connected communications networks where the message from the HA is unreachable, a service controller selects a proxy node as a destination for the message. See Col. 5 lines 3-45 of Flynn.

In addition, Flynn discloses a technique where the HA instructs the service controller to send the message to the mobile node in a case where the mobile node is located where the message from the HA is reachable, and where the mobile node registered a new care-of addresses on a foreign network. See Col. 7, lines 18-48 of Flynn. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Flynn merely teaches a controller which tracks where a single mobile unit is located.

However, Flynn does not teach or suggest that the controller combines a plurality of addresses for communication equipment with the plurality of target equipment addresses, selects a combination to be used by the reception/transmission unit from the combinations by selecting a preferred route of communication, and controls the reception/transmission unit to perform the packet reception/transmission by using the selected combination. Consequently, Chen is not believed to anticipate or render obvious the subject matter defined by claim 1 when considered alone or in combination with Flynn.

Independent claim 6 defines a communication system include the communication equipment defined by claim 1. Claim 7 is the method analog of claim 6. Both claims are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is believed to be allowable. Dependent claims 3-5 are also believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

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In view of the foregoing, no further issues are believed to be remaining. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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